H.B. No. 1778

AN ACT

relating to the issuance of specialty license plates to certain professional sports teams.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1.  Section 504.614(a), Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a)  The department may issue specialty license plates that include the name and insignia of a professional sports team located in this state. The department shall design the license plates in consultation with the professional sports team and may enter a trademark license with the professional sports team or its league to implement this section. A license plate may be issued under this section only for a professional sports team that:

(1)  certifies to the department that the requirements of Section 504.702 are met; and

(2)  plays its home games in a facility:

(A)  constructed or operated, in whole or in part, with public funds; or

(B)  owned, in whole or in part, by a public entity.

SECTION 2.  Section 504.614(c)(2), Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

(2)  "Professional sports team" means a sports team that is a member or an affiliate of a member of the National Football League, National Basketball Association, [~~or~~] National Hockey League, Major League Soccer, or a major league baseball team.

SECTION 3.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

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    President of the Senate Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1778 was passed by the House on May 6, 2023, by the following vote:  Yeas 113, Nays 21, 2 present, not voting.

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Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1778 was passed by the Senate on May 19, 2023, by the following vote:  Yeas 31, Nays 0.

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Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

                    Date

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                  Governor